

MUSIC SOL REVISION PROCESS 1999-2000

BACKGROUND

During the February 25th meeting of the Virginia Board of Education, a workplan was requested for the revision of Standards of Learning (SOL) in music, art, theatre, foreign language, health and physical education, and driver education. A workplan was submitted for review during the Board's annual retreat in April, 1999. On April 29, 1999, the Board approved the workplan that included a 1999-2000 revision of the Music SOL. The workplan called for submission of a draft to the Board of Education for first review on January 6, 2000, public hearings in the spring of 2000, final review and approval from the Board May 26, 2000, and dissemination of the revised Music Standards Of Learning in the summer of 2000. Content area specialists at the Department of Education served as the SOL revision project directors for their respective disciplines.

MUSIC SOL REVISION WRITING COMMITTEE

SELECTION

A memorandum from the State Superintendent of Public Instruction was sent to each division level Superintendent. This memo included a copy of the workplan for SOL revision and a nomination form to allow Superintendents to submit names of individuals to serve on the Music SOL Revision Writing Committee. The names of the individuals selected to serve on the Steering Committee were announced at the Virginia Music Educators Association (VMEA) Executive Board Meeting, June 5, at Charlottesville High School.

PROFILE

The twenty-four individuals who were selected to be on the Writing Committee represented all eight of the Superintendent 's Regional Study Groups. The Music SOL Writing Committee was comprised of eight Steering Committee members and sixteen additional members. For the revision process, the Writing Committee was divided into three groups: Music K-12; Instrumental; and Vocal/Choral. One division level specialist and one representative from higher education were in each of the three groups.

One principal, who is a former music supervisor and music teacher, was a member of the Steering Committee. One classroom teacher and one individual from higher education were in each of the three groups of the Steering Committee. Three of the eight members of the Steering Committee were classroom teachers and fourteen of the sixteen additional members of the Writing Committee were classroom teachers. Hence, seventeen of the twenty-four members of the Writing Committee were classroom teachers.

Eight members of the Music SOL Writing Committee are or have been officers in the Virginia Music Educators Association (VMEA). Three members of the Steering Committee served on one of the three VMEA Learning Standards committees: one on the General Committee; one on the Review Sub-committee; and one on the Steering Committee.

MEMBERS

Music K-12

William (Bill) R. Elliott, Tazewell County Public Schools, Dudley Primary School, Abbs Valley Elementary School, and Graham Intermediate School; Chorus, K-6

Dr. Darla Hanley*, Shenandoah University, Associate Professor, Music Education/Music; Coordinator of Graduate Studies in Music Education; VMEA College Section President; VMEA Learning Standards Review Sub-committee

Bonnie L. Johnson, Newport News City Public Schools, Deer Park Elementary Environmental Science Magnet School

Patricia B. Kennedy, King William County Public Schools, Acquinton Elementary School; VMEA Notes Editorial Board

Dr. Raymond Lowther*, Danville City Public Schools, Principal, Woodrow Wilson Center for the Classical and the Contemporary Arts; VMEA Research Chair, 1996-98; VMEA Learning Standards General Committee

Suzanne Mallory-Parker, Chesterfield County Public Schools, Instructional Specialist for Performing Arts

Michael R. Milam*, Botetourt County Public Schools, Cloverdale Elementary School; Choral Director, Lord Botetourt High School

Karen C. Reichard, Harrisonburg City Public Schools, Waterman Elementary School

Betty Anne Spiers, Henrico County Public Schools, Dumbarton Elementary School

Instrumental Music

Dr. Terry Austin*, Virginia Commonwealth University, Associate Professor of Music, Director of Bands; VMEA President July, 2000-2002

Glen Burtner, Lancaster County Public Schools, Band Director, Lancaster Middle School

Marvin Lockett, Highland County Public Schools, Music Teacher/Band Director,

Highland Elementary School and Highland High School; retired June 2000

Michael (Mike) D. Neller, Amelia County Public Schools, Band Director, Amelia County Middle School and Amelia County High School

Stan Schoonover*, Fairfax County Public Schools, Music Specialist; VBODA President, 1994-96

Joanne Steele, Roanoke City Public Schools, Band/Strings, Stonewall Jackson Middle School; Conductor of the Junior Strings of the Roanoke Symphony

Patrick L. Trice, Jr., Carroll County Public Schools, Band Director, Woodlawn School

Mary Wagner*, Fairfax County Public Schools, Orchestra Teacher at Sangster Elementary School and Cherry Run Elementary School; VBODA String Representative, 1994-98; VMEA Learning Standards Steering Committee; American String Teachers Association (ASTA) with National String Orchestra Association Secretary, 1998-2000

Vocal/Choral Music

Jay BeVille, Hanover County Public Schools, Performing Arts Lead Teacher Specialist
Kathy Carter, Franklin County Public Schools, Choral Director, Franklin County High School

Melvin Goodwyn*, Prince William County Public Schools, Choral Director, C.D. Hylton High School; VCDA President Elect

Elizabeth (Beth) N. Hazelette, Norfolk City Public Schools, Senior Coordinator of Music
Dr. Nancy K. Klein*, Old Dominion University, Associate Professor, Choral Music Education; Director of Choirs; Graduate Program Director for Music Education; VMEA College Section President, 1994-96

Barbara Perry, Stafford County Public Schools, A.G. Wright Middle School/Colonial Forge High School

June Stegall, Frederick County Public Schools, Choral Director, James Wood High School

Steering Committee Member*

CONSULTANT

Dr. Irma H. Collins, Adjunct Professor of Music Education, Shenandoah University, served as the project consultant. Before coming to Virginia, Dr. Collins was Professor of Music at Murray State University from 1976-93. She served as the National Chairperson for the Society for Music Teacher Education (MENC) from 1986-92 and founded the MENC publication, Journal of Music Teacher Education, in 1991. Dr. Collins has authorship in a number of professional publications and has been a consultant for MENC and for Educational Testing Services in Princeton, NJ. She continues to serve as an arts consultant at all levels. Being a composer, reviewer, conductor, vocal soloist, and violinist, Dr. Collins brought a wealth of experience to the Music SOL revision process in Virginia.

PROCEDURE

The Steering Committee first met at Shenandoah University on June 22, 1999, and made some preliminary decisions that were subsequently endorsed by the Writing Committee on July 18, 1999.

- Music Standards would be written for each grade level K-5 and for two non-performance clusters, 6-8 and 9-12.
- Instrumental Music and Vocal/Choral Music Standards would be written for four levels—Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced, and Artist.
- All Standards would be written as benchmarks and organized by four strands—Perform, Create, Investigate, and Connect.

The full Writing Committee met July 18-23 at Shenandoah University to revise the Music Standards of Learning. The Steering Committee provided leadership to the Writing Committee. For the revision process, the Writing Committee used the 1983 and 1987 Virginia Standards of Learning for Music, the National Standards for Music, the VMEA Learning Standards, and standards or comparable standards documents from other states. Four parents and four students worked with members of the Writing Committee during the week at Shenandoah.

In November, a draft of the revised Music SOL was distributed to the 1,000 participants in the VMEA Annual In-Service Conference at The Homestead. A feedback form and a summary of the Music SOL revision process were attached to the draft. Comments received on the feedback form were used to finalize a draft document for the Virginia Board of Education dated December 20, 1999. This draft was presented to the Board of Education for first review on January 6, 2000. The Board accepted the draft and scheduled five public hearings for April 3, 2000. Public comment from these hearings was documented for the Board. A subsequent draft was presented to the Board of Education for final review and approval on May 26, 2000.